

Gulfport Session Feature or

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Robert E. Naylor, president of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, will deliver the closing message for the 1978 Mississippi Baptist Evangelism Conference, according to an announcement by Roy Collum, director of evangelism for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Earl Kelly, executive secretary treasurer for the Mississippi Baptist Convention, was originally scheduled to deliver the closing address, but he will be unable to because of the death of Mrs. Kelly.

Other speakers will include Kenneth L. Chafin of Houston, Tex.; Paul S.

Rees of Boca Raton, Fla.; Frank H. Crumpler of Atlanta, Ga.; Richard Porter of Columbia, Miss.; and Jerry

Clower of Yazoo City, Miss. Other Mississippians who will be presented in a feature titled "Call to

Boldness" will be Maurice Flowers of Laurel, Tommy Tutor of Holly Springs, Tom Hall of Purvis, Clyde

Little of Forest, and Larry Grafton of Laurel.

Two pioneer song leaders will be in charge of the music on Tuesday morning and Tuesday afternoon. They are Robert Cooper of Aberdeen in the morning and M. E. Perry of Greenville in the afternoon. Other music leaders will be Dan Hall, music director for the Convention Board, Monday evening; J. T. Hannaford, minister of music at First Church, Moss Point, Tuesday evening; and Gwen Keys Hitt, minister of music at Big Level Church at Wiggins, Wednesday morning.

Special music will be presented by

Irene Martin Harperville; Cooper; the youth ensemble of First Church, Gulfport; Mike Burt of Purvis; Cecil Harper of Jackson; Shades of Light of Long Beach; an ensemble of music evangelists; Reeta Davidson of Lucedale; the Churchmen Brass and the Mississippi Singing Churchmen; the Keester Soul Choir; Jimmy Hannaford of Burbank, Calif.; and Bill Skyeagle of Waco, Tex.; and the Temple Belles of Hattiesburg.

Organists will be Avery Todd of Gulfport, Sandra Galey of Biloxi, Philip Fortenberry of Hattiesburg, (Continued on page 2)



Robert E. Naylor



Clyde Little



Tommy Tutor



Thomas Hall



Larry Grafton



Maurice Flowers

The Baptist Record

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Men From 30 Nations Will Attend Indianapolis Meet

INDIANAPOLIS, USA—Thousands of Baptists will gather at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis,

April 3-6, as the Baptists of North America host the Second World Conference of Baptist Men. At least 30 na-

tions, possibly as many as 50, will be represented by Baptist men at the gathering. The first such conference met in Hong Kong in 1974.

Speakers will include David Y. K. Wong of Hong Kong, president of the Baptist World Alliance, Francis Dennis, of Liberia, ambassador to the United States, Stephen Steeves of Canada, C. Ronald Goulding of England, and a number of noted Americans: John W. Williams of Kansas City, Gardner C. Taylor of New York City, Manuel Scott of Los Angeles, Jimmy

Allen of San Antonio, and Owen Cooper of Yazoo City.

Special music will be provided by a choir from India, the Kentucky Baptist Chorale, and the combined choirs of the National Baptist churches of Indianapolis, as well as by several soloists and a duet.

Meditations will be under the leadership of Norman Cheung of Hong Kong, Lee Satterfield of Virginia, Erling Oddestad of Sweden, Roberto Laredo of Chile, Samuel Prato of Venezuela, and Isaac Malafa of the United Republic of Cameroon.

About 40 workshops will be available, dealing with discipleship training, citizenship, institutional ministries, ecology, evangelism, church budgeting, church building, pastor-lay relationships, adult leadership for youth, and Bible study.

Although the conference is organized by men, women are also invited says Stephen Steeves, chairman of the men's department of the BWA. They may participate in the regular sessions of the conference, or take part in several activities which will be provided specifically to meet their interests. One woman is listed on the program: Mrs. Marie Mathis of Waco, Texas, chairperson of the BWA Women's Department, will give one of the addresses.

Advance registration is requested, to be accomplished through the BWA office in Washington. A registration fee of \$25 is charged for each man attending from the United States and Canada.

Mrs. Kelly Dies Following Illness

Mrs. Earl (Amanda) Kelly, 53, wife of the executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, died Jan. 29 at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center following a lengthy illness.

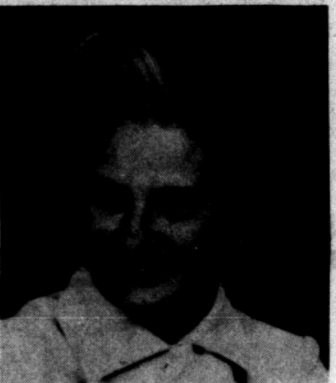
Funeral services were Jan. 31 at Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Jackson, where the Kelly family holds membership. Julius Thompson, pastor, was in charge of the service. Wright and Ferguson funeral directors in Jackson were in charge of the arrangements.

Burial was in the Oak Hill Baptist Church cemetery in Pontotoc County. Pall bearers were W. R. Roberts, Bryant Cummings, Dan Hall, Clark Hensley, Clifton Perkins, Harold Kitchings, Don McGregor, Foy Rogers, and Roy Collum. All other department directors at the Baptist Building served as honorary pall bearers.

Mrs. Kelly was born Amanda Harding at Cottage Grove, Tenn., and grew up there. She attended high school in Paris, Tenn., and was graduated from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville with a bachelor of science degree in home economics. Following graduation she was a home economist with the Tennessee Valley Authority in the Tupelo, Miss., office. It was there she met Earl Kelly when he was associate pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Tupelo during the summer of 1946. They were married Feb. 21, 1950, at Calvary Baptist Church.

Later Mrs. Kelly taught home economics for one year and was area home economist in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. During his seminary studies Dr. Kelly was pastor of Sandcreek Baptist Church in Greensburg, Ind. Upon his receiving his doctor of theology degree in 1953 from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., the Kellys moved to Holly Springs, where he was pastor of First Baptist Church. In 1967 he was called to Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Jackson, and was there until he was elected executive secretary for the Mississippi Baptist Convention and Convention Board in 1973.

Mrs. Kelly was one of six children. A brother, Paul Harding, and a sister,



Amanda Kelly

Mrs. Sue Tosh, preceded her in death, as did her parents. Three brothers survive. They are Harold Harding and Enoch Harding of Cottage Grove and George Harding of Louisville, Ky.

In addition to Dr. Kelly, three children survive Mrs. Kelly. They are Dana, 19, a junior at Mississippi College; Brian, 12, a student at First Presbyterian Day School in Jackson; and Kay, 11, also a student at First Presbyterian.

A son, Barry, died in 1964.

The family has requested in lieu of flowers that memorials be given to an education fund for ministerial students to be administered by the Mississippi Baptist Foundation. Checks should be made out to the Foundation and designated for the Amanda Kelly Memorial Scholarship Fund.

House Approves Pornography Statute

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U. S. House of Representatives has given final approval to a bill to protect children from sexual exploitation. The measure now goes to President Carter for his signature.

The bill finally passed was introduced into the U. S. Senate on May 23, 1977, by U. S. Senators John C. Culver (D.-Iowa) and Charles McC. Mathias (R.-Md.). Several other bills dealing with child prostitution and child pornography were introduced in Congress last year.

Culver noted that the new law, if signed by the President, will make three changes in the United States code. It will make it a federal crime to use any child under 16 in the production of pornographic material; ban the sale and distribution of obscene material that depicts any child in sexually explicit conduct; and prohibit the interstate transportation of any child for the purpose of prostitution or other commercial exploitation.

The measure provides penalties of up to 10 years in prison with a \$10,000 fine for first offenders, and up to 15 years in prison with a \$15,000 fine for second offenders.

Opinions Clash At Tax Credit Hearings

By W. Barry Garrett
WASHINGTON (BP)—The Carter administration has teamed up with religious liberty organizations to oppose proposals for income tax credits for tuition paid for private school tuition on all levels during three days of hear-

ings on bills now pending in Congress. The hearings were held by the Senate Subcommittee on Taxation and Debt Management of which U. S. Sen. Harry F. Byrd Jr. (D.-Va.) is chairman. Byrd never showed up for the hearings, which were presided over by U. S. Sen. Bob Packwood (R.-Ore.) and were attended only by U. S. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D.-N. Y.) and U. S. Sen. William V. Roth Jr. (R.-Del.). U. S. Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D.-Conn.) and U. S. Sen. Clifford P. Hansen (R.-Wyo.) attended one session briefly.

Although the Senate has in previous years passed bills providing for some form of tax credits for tuition paid to private schools, these are the first hearings on the subject ever held by the Senate Finance Committee.

The earlier Senate-passed tax credit bills never have been enacted into law. They either died before passage by the House of Representatives or were eliminated by conference committees between the House and Senate. Predictions by political observers in Washington about the prospects for the enactment into law of the current proposals are rather uncertain.

Half of the Senate members are listed as co-sponsors of the Packwood-Moynihan Bill (S. 2142). Observers point out that it will have difficulty in the House. Also, since the

(Continued on page 5)



Retired Booneville Teacher Gets Mission Assignment In Brazil

Virginia Oakley of Booneville, a member of First Church, and a retired school teacher, has gone to Brazil as a short term missionary. Recently her pastor, Tom Rayburn, listed a number of short term mission volunteer job descriptions in the church bulletin. Mrs. Oakley became interested and contacted the Foreign Mission Board. They immediately reached her and told her that there was an opening for an English teacher at the Baptist school in Recife. Mrs. Oakley left for Brazil in early January. She will be teaching 40 students, children of missionaries in Brazil. She will be teaching grades seven through 12 and possibly having a library assignment. Rayburn said, "She told me that she felt that this was in God's will for her life and she has a new lease on life and is as excited as a child with a new toy. Her decision has brought quite a bit of excitement into our church."

Ben Fisher Announces September Retirement

NASHVILLE (BP)—Ben C. Fisher, who has spent 40 years in service to Southern Baptists including 30 years in



Fisher

Christian higher education, has announced early retirement, effective Sept. 30, 1978.

Fisher, executive director-treasurer of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention since 1970, will be 63 in May. Commission chairman George Bagley, executive secretary for the Alabama Baptist Convention, will name a search committee to look for Fisher's successor.

Fisher is a native of Webster, N.C. He served as a pastor in North Carolina from 1938 to 1947 before becoming chairman of the English department at Gardner-Webb College in 1947. He later served as executive assistant to the president and director of public relations at Gardner-Webb.

In 1952, he became associate secretary of the SBC Education Commission and associate editor of the commission publication, "The Southern Baptist Educator," and served also as executive secretary of the Department of Christian Education of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky.

He joined Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., in 1954, as administrative assistant to the president, director of public relations, and professor of Christian education.

Fisher became executive secretary of the Council on Christian Higher Education of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina in 1962, serving until 1970, when he rejoined the SBC Education Commission as chief executive and editor of "The Southern Baptist Educator."

He is former chairman of the Education Commission, former acting director of the North Carolina Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, and a charter member and former president of the Baptist Public Relations Association.

He served as a member of the steering committee for the Baptist Education Study Task conducted by the Education Commission, 1966-67, and led in sponsoring a National Colloquium on Christian Education in 1976. The colloquium resulted in a year-long study of Baptist colleges by Earl J. McGrath and associates through the Program in

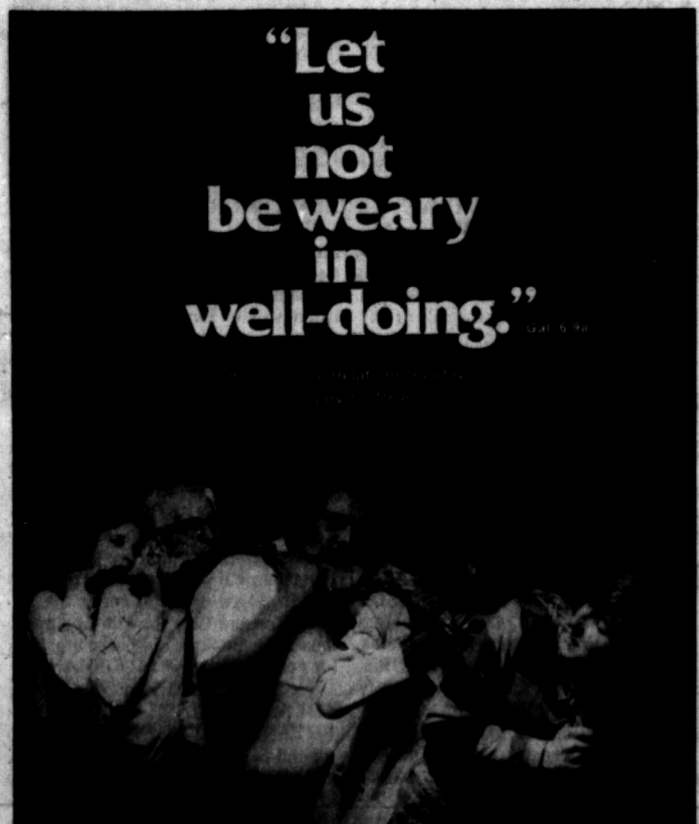
(Continued on page 5)

1977 Top Ten In Baptisms

Woodlawn Church in Vicksburg led the Mississippi Baptist Convention in baptisms in 1977 with 102. Paul L. Brooks is the pastor.

The top 10 churches in the state in baptisms are listed below. In a listing presented earlier it was discovered that some statistics inadvertently had been submitted in error. The correct list including pastors, is shown here.

1. Woodlawn Baptist Church, Warren Association	102
Paul L. Brooks	
2. First Baptist Church, Jackson, Hinds-Madison Association	91
Frank D. Pollard	
3. Fellowship Baptist Church, Lebanon Association	86
Hershel Wren	
4. Horn Lake Baptist Church, DeSoto Association	81
Billy E. Roby	
5. Van Winkle Baptist Church, Hinds-Madison Association	79
H. A. Milner	
6. Calvary Baptist Church, Leflore Association	71
Rayford Duck	
7. Colonial Hills Baptist Church, DeSoto Association	70
J. D. Nazary	
8. Grace Memorial Baptist Church, Lee Association	67
Joe W. Holcomb	
9. Fairview Baptist Church, Lowndes Association	67
Walter E. Henderson	
10. Parkway Baptist Church, Hinds-Madison Association	66
Bill Causey	



Fastest Growing

"A Friendly, Sweet Spirit— Even In Business Meetings"

By Anne McWilliams

Sunday visitors at Colonial Heights by the following Wednesday morning have been contacted at least three times.

Colonial Heights Church in north-east Jackson is the fourth fastest growing church in Mississippi and the 75th fastest growing in the Southern Baptist Convention. This is according to a Home Mission Board survey which based its statistical findings on data from Uniform Church Letters.

"Reasons for our growth are simple," says Jack Colvin, chairman of deacons. "First credit, must go to the Lord. God has blessed us in so many ways, constantly answering our prayers and our needs. You will notice many prayers in every service, not stereotyped but heartfelt and earnest pleas for God to use our pastor, our staff, and our people as His vessels. We are not so rushed that we would miss the opportunity to come to God humbly seeking His mercy, guidance, and strength. On Friday mornings there is a men's prayer breakfast.

"Second, God has blessed us with His servant as pastor Len Turner, who fearlessly preaches God's word with enthusiasm, love and genuine concern. Our dedicated staff is of one mind and one purpose. The ladies in our church are devoted to God's service and can be counted on for leadership and they set an example of devotion."

Fred Tarpley, director of missions, Hinds-Madison Association, said that "the church is in a part of the city where there is tremendous growth, and the congregation has dynamic, evangelistic leadership."

From October, 1975, when Len Turner came as pastor, until mid-January 1978, there were 532 additions, 136 for baptism. Total membership under his leadership has increased from 1184 to 1500. The church has two Sunday morning worship services and two Sunday Schools. They are in a \$2,000,000 construction program, building a new auditorium that will seat 1200, plus a music suite and additional education space.

One survey revealed that of the 16,000 persons living within a ten-mile radius of the church, over 50 percent are of Baptist preference. As Colvin said, "God has placed us in a strategic point to be a lighthouse in a sea of



Len Turner "fearlessly preaches God's word with enthusiasm, love and genuine concern."

homes with new houses constantly being built. From small beginnings in a cow shed 22 years ago, God has led all the way."

Ralph Rives, deacon, pointed out, "We have a real dynamic preacher of the Word. People come to hear Christ and the Bible preached. And we have some fine lay people who work at visitation. Those who visit the church Sunday mornings get three visits immediately — one on Sunday afternoon by one of the deacons, one on Monday by a staff member, and one on Tuesday by a regular visitation team."

"The amazing thing," said Pastor Turner, "is that we don't do anything extraordinary to cause unusual growth. I think the key thing is a strong Sunday School. Too, we seek to lead our people to be extremely mission-minded. Fifteen percent of our budget goes to missions — 14 percent to the Cooperative Program and one percent to associational missions. Our church ranked sixth in increased giving in the Mississippi Baptist Convention for 1977. Total gifts last year were \$509,225.20.

The Gospel message is presented on Wednesday nights, as on Sunday, and an invitation given.

"We are a warm and friendly church," the pastor feels. "Ours is a relatively young church, the kind of situation where the individual can grow. We try to have a balanced program of evangelism and discipleship. During Church Training hour each church staff member teaches a different class in discipleship. We have a class in reproductive evangelism — a soul-winning class, with a new group every three months."

He added, "We have a strong Children's Worship service. Our music and youth programs are excellent. Dot Pray and Debbie Case are the finest

instrumentalists to be had. We have ten choirs, including a handbell choir."

(Wayne Barber, associate pastor and director of youth activities, has recently resigned to accept a position in another church.)

Jack Colvin sees the young people as "an example of faithfulness and dedication for the entire congregation. They sit in the front of the church, listening and oftentimes taking notes and praying." Six of them have surrendered their lives for full-time Christian service.

Kindergarten and Mother's Morning Out are successful outreach ministries. Patsy Castle said that at least fifty mothers twice a week take advantage of the Tuesday and Thursday morning babysitting service. (They pay the church as they would a sitter.) Castle said, "I think this feature has helped to draw quite a few members."

Before the 30-year-old Turner came to Colonial Heights, he was associate pastor and minister of education at Cottage Hill, Mobile, the third largest church in Alabama. During his ministry there the church led Alabama in baptisms two years in a row and was 10th in the Southern Baptist Convention in baptisms. Turner's responsibilities included directing the bus ministry, the children's worship services, and the prison ministry; overseeing the youth program; and teaching reproductive evangelism.

Within the past ten years he has conducted at least 125 revivals.

He was born in Greenville, S.C., and graduated from Mars Hill College and Southwestern Seminary. He and his wife, the former Pansy Turner, have two children.

For over two years Turner has been on radio, a six-day ministry on WJXM, Jackson. He has a 30-minute program on Sunday afternoons, from 5 to 5:30, and five-minute spots Monday-Friday. The station has estimated that the programs are heard by at least 20,000 each week.

(Fourth in a series on Mississippi's fastest growing Baptist churches.)



Jack Colvin of Lamar Life Insurance Agency is chairman of deacons. Born in South Carolina, he grew up in Minnesota and moved to Jackson and Colonial Heights 13 years ago.



Ralph Rives, deacon, says, "We have a dynamic preacher of the Word. Our services are not a social atmosphere, but a real atmosphere of worship." Rives is a real estate man, with Cameron-Brown South, Inc.



R. P. Travis, deacon, says, "The number of people and location of the church are ideal for growth. Everybody who comes is impressed with the friendliness of the church." His wife adds, "Brother Turner is the most interesting preacher I have ever heard." Travis, now retired, was in the grocery business and also manufactured candy.



Colonial Heights is building a new auditorium, plus more offices and additional education space. On Sunday mornings now they have two worship services and two Sunday Schools. The pastor is in the foreground.



Norma Patton picks up her three-year-old son, Michael, who has been at the church on "Mother's Morning Out." Her other child, a daughter, is in third grade. She said, "I think the church is growing because the people are allowing the Holy Spirit to work through them." She moved to Jackson about a year and a half ago from McMinnville, TN. She visited the church nearest to her apartment on Old Canton Road, and liked the good program and friendly people so much that she stayed. She said that she really likes the "Mother's Morning Out" — and so does Michael.



Nan Thompson, single adult and apartment dweller, is director of Phillips Business College. When she moved to Jackson from Memphis 18 months ago, Colonial Heights Church attracted her because, she said, "It was a friendly place. There is such a sweet, sweet spirit — even in the business meetings!" She teaches in the Sunday Sunday School.

Gulfport Session Features Naylor

(Continued from page 1)

Charles Endsley of Jackson, and Delila McMillan of Long Beach.

The pianists will be Dot Pray of Jackson, Laura Koch of Wiggins, Beth Cooley of Gulfport, Irene Martin, and James Wittman of Perkinston.

Rees will present the Bible study and will speak at each session. Chafin will speak Monday evening and Tuesday morning and Tuesday afternoon.

Crumpler is scheduled for Tuesday morning and Wednesday morning. Clower's message will be on Tuesday evening.

A special feature of the Tuesday evening session will be an organ interlude by Endsley, who is organist and artist in residence at Calvary Church, Jackson.

LEGISLATIVE PROSPECTUS Bills Of Interest Include Pornography, Alcohol

S. B. NO. 2612: (BY: SENATOR NIX) An act to amend Section 27-65-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, to exempt sales to churches from sales tax. FINANCE.

S. B. NO. 2680: (BY: SENATOR GRESHAM) An act to amend Section 27-71-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, to extend the 3% markup on alcoholic beverages used to fund alcoholism treatment and rehabilitation programs. FINANCE.

S. B. NO. 2690: (BY: SENATOR RHODES. (By Request)) An act to amend Section 97-5-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, to classify the crime of touching or handling a child for lustful purposes. JUDICIARY A.

Salary Survey

(Continued from page 1)

tions of each item on the list of direct income, church business expense, and fringe benefits.

The breakdown in reporting will be made on the basis of resident church membership.

Perkins urged each minister to return his questionnaire because the greater the return the greater will be the effectiveness of the information gained.

The Staff Salary Study Committee for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board will make the observations on the completed survey. They are Murray Alexander, Greenville; Eugene Turner, Yazoo City; Plemon Ming, Jackson; and Robert Dent, Holly Springs.

S. B. NO. 2834: (BY: SENATOR BODRON) An act to amend Section 67-3-59, Mississippi Code of 1972, to provide a penalty of \$25.00 for each sale of beer or light wine to a person who does not hold a valid permit. FINANCE.

BY: REPRESENTATIVES LONG, HORNE, JOLLY AND McDADE. H. B. NO. 816: An act to amend Section 63-11-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, to reduce the blood alcohol amount which creates a presumption that a person is under the influence of alcohol while driving a motor vehicle; and for related purposes. JUDICIARY A.

BY: REPRESENTATIVES D. ANDERSON (31st), BANKS AND CLARK (16th). H. B. NO. 850: An act to amend Section 67-3-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, to prohibit the sale of any beer or wine between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. and for related purposes. WAYS AND MEANS.

BY: REPRESENTATIVE ABRAHAM. H. B. NO. 851: An act to amend Sections 67-1-37 and 67-1-85, Mississippi Code of 1972, to remove prohibitions against advertising of alcoholic beverages; and for related purposes. WAYS AND MEANS.

BY: REPRESENTATIVES BENJAMIN, McALLA, PRESLEY, LYNN, HUGHES, R. ANDERSON (31st), W. SMITH, (43rd), Manning, Andrews, Price, Doxey, Smith (34th), GORDON, WILLIAMSON, MABRY, OWENS AND BRYAN. H. B. NO. 860: An act to amend Section 67-1-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, to require that all alcoholic beverages, other than beer and light wine, be labelled with a warning that the contents can be habit-forming and can be harmful to health;

and for related purposes. WAYS AND MEANS.

BY: REPRESENTATIVES BANKS, GOLLOTT AND D. ANDERSON (31st). H. B. NO. 893: An act to be called the "Dog Racing Licensing Act of 1978," to provide for certain powers and duties of the Mississippi Racing Commission; to provide for legitimate dog racing and pari-mutuel wagering; to provide for rules and regulations governing such activities; to provide for licensing of such activities; and for related purposes. WAYS AND MEANS.

BY: REPRESENTATIVE WILKERSON. H. B. NO. 894: An act to amend Section 27-71-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, to provide that the three percent markup be collected on all distilled spirits for funding alcoholism treatment and rehabilitation programs and to delete the repealer language therein; and for related purposes. WAYS AND MEANS.

BY: REPRESENTATIVES ENDRISS, GOLLOTT, DOLLAR, SIMPSON, HAVENS, O'KEEFE AND BLESSEY. H. B. NO. 919: An act to amend Section 63-11-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, to authorize the State Board of Health to approve permits for the chemical analysis of a person's breath, blood or urine under the Implied Consent Law for military police located in the State of Mississippi; and for related purposes. JUDICIARY.

BY: REPRESENTATIVES ABRAHAM, DISHARON AND BRYAN. H. B. NO. 955: An act to amend Sections 63-11-31, 63-11-37 and 63-11-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, to broaden the offense of operating a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, thereby abolishing the offense of driving while intoxicated; to amend Section 63-11-32, Mississippi Code of 1972, in conformity thereto; to repeal Section 63-11-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, which establishes the offense of driving while intoxicated and prescribes the penalty therefor; and for related purposes. JUDICIARY A.

BY: REPRESENTATIVES WILLIAM (10th) AND WELLS. H. B. NO. 1010: An act to prohibit the dissemination of obscene materials; to prohibit the dissemination of sexually explicit materials to minors; to define terms; to establish procedures; to provide for seizure of obscene contraband; to prescribe penalties; to establish exemption and defenses; to regulate commercialized sex businesses; to repeal Section 97-5-13 through 97-5-17, 97-5-19, 97-29-33 through 97-29-41, 97-31-1 through 97-31-27, and 99-31-1 through 99-31-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, which relate to prohibition or regulation of obscene materials and procedures therefor; and for related purposes. JUDICIARY B.

BY: REPRESENTATIVE PERRY. H. B. NO. 1020: An act to provide for the sale of contraband beer; and for related purposes. WAYS AND MEANS.

BY: REPRESENTATIVE SCOPER. H. B. NO. 1073: An act to amend Section 63-11-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, to provide that a person found to have been operating a motor vehicle on the public streets or highways of this state while under the influence of alcohol or while intoxicated shall be held in custody at least six hours; to provide that such person may not be released into the custody of

an intoxicated individual; and for related purposes. JUDICIARY A.

BY: REPRESENTATIVE COMPRETTA. H. B. NO. 1118: An act to amend Section 27-71-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, to delete the privilege tax on sales of alcoholic beverages in excess of \$5,000.00; and for related purposes. WAYS AND MEANS.

BY: REPRESENTATIVES BANKS AND D. ANDERSON (31st). H. B. NO. 1122: An act to be called the "Dog Racing Licensing Act of 1978," to provide for certain powers and duties of the Mississippi Racing Commission; to provide for legitimate dog racing and pari-mutuel wagering; to provide for rules and regulations governing such activities; to provide for licensing of such activities; and for related purposes. WAYS AND MEANS.

BY: REPRESENTATIVES BURKES, TURNER, PRICE AND HOLLINGSWORTH. H. B. NO. 1188: An act to amend Section 97-33-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, to provide that the practice of bookmaking is unlawful; to provide a penalty for violation of this act; and for related purposes. JUDICIARY A.

BY: REPRESENTATIVE TEDFORD. H. B. NO. 1220: An act to make it unlawful for any alcoholic beverages to be consumed upon certain business premises; and for related purposes. WAYS AND MEANS.

BY: REPRESENTATIVES JOHNSON (28th) AND GILBREATH. H. B. NO. 819: An act to prohibit the showing of certain motion pictures to minor children without being accompanied by a parent or guardian; to provide for a civil penalty; and for related purposes. JUDICIARY B.

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Fools and wise men are equally harmless. It is the half-fools and the half-wise that are dangerous. — Goethe

Baptist World Alliance Sunday Is February 5

By Robert S. Denny

The Baptist world family is living in the most exciting of times. There are reports of new Baptist congregations being established in the Soviet Union, and of jailed pastors being released from imprisonment. Partly through the Baptist World Alliance's work as intermediary, Evangelist Billy Graham was privileged to preach five times in Hungary and to visit religious and government leaders there.

Baptist church membership in the

Baptist membership around the world has increased 22 per cent during the past decade. January 1977 figures show a total of 33.3 baptized believers in 137,000 Baptist churches in 138 countries of today's world. Carl W. Tiller, the BWA statistician, estimates that the total Baptist community — family members not yet baptized and thousands of adults who worship in the Baptist congregations — is about 46.2 million. In many countries of the world, baptism means expulsion from family and society.

Essential Oneness

The Baptist World Alliance exists as "an expression of the essential oneness of Baptist people in the Lord Jesus Christ," and lists its goals "to impart inspiration to the brotherhood, and to promote the spirit of fellowship, service, and cooperation among its members." Three new Baptist conventions — in the Philippines, Okinawa, and Papua New Guinea — joined the fellowship last year, bringing to 109 the number of constituent bodies in the Alliance. These bodies have cooperating churches in 90 countries. If we include the mission fields of the member bodies, the count increases to 121 countries.

David Y. K. Wong, a Baptist layman of Hong Kong, is president of the Alliance 1975-80. Since his election at the Baptist World Congress in Stockholm in 1975, he has visited Baptist work on every continent. Last year he visited in Asia, Africa, Latin America and North America. While in Kenya, East Africa, he participated in the delivery of 6,000 feet of water pipe from the BWA relief program which pipe were to be laid to bring water to a village without rain for five years. His participation in this event gave evidence of the Alliance interest in the whole person.

In addition to our headquarters office in Washington, we have area offices in Hamburg, West Germany, and Sydney, Australia. Gerhard Claas and Alan C. Prior are associate secretaries with responsibilities in these area offices. The Alliance has 12 vice presidents, strategically located in various sections of the world, to facilitate the BWA ministry to the ends of the earth.

The year 1977 has been strategic for the BWA's new program of Evangelism and Education. C. Ronald Goulding, BWA's associate secretary for this division, has lead evangelism

conferences in Europe and Asia, and has communicated valuable assistance packets to evangelism leaders in all countries. The division's theme leading up to 1980 is "New People for a New World Through Jesus Christ." The first year's emphasis dealt with Bible study. The current year majors on "Renewal for Witness and Service," and next year will be one of "Going out and taking forth the good news of Christ to all people."

This evangelistic emphasis is of major help to Baptist groups in developing countries, who have long felt the compulsion to proclaim the gospel, but have lacked in strategy. Each country is adapting plans to best fit its own social and political climate.

Sharing Sessions

Baptist world fellowship has increased greatly also through sharing sessions of study commissions in the Division of Study and Research, with leaders from various nations meeting annually to discuss subjects of common concern. There have been sharing sessions too for International Mission Secretaries of the BWA's member bodies, outlining ways for most effectively reaching the world for Christ.

Baptist World Relief is continuing to meet human needs on every continent. It is a channel through which Baptists of many nations can share together to bear one another's burdens. Contributions to relief totaled \$546,431 in 1977. A new project, linked to the medical activities of Brother's Brother Foundation, which is chaired by Baptist deacon Dr. Robert A. Hingson, aims to rid the world of six major childhood diseases.

We sing about the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. This is increasingly true as we come to know each other better. A program of communications includes regional and world meetings where our people meet face to face, visits by BWA officers, correspondence with denominational leaders, and a monthly publication, *The Baptist World*, circulating in 104 countries.

Three major world meetings are immediately ahead. The Second World Conference of Baptist Men will meet at Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, April 5-9, 1978. The Ninth Baptist Youth World Conference will meet at Manila, the Philippines, July 19-23, 1978. The 14th Baptist World Congress will meet at Toronto, Canada, July 8-13, 1980.

These are some of the current highlights in the life of our Baptist world family. We are convinced that the Lord has more great things ahead for us, as we seek unitedly to witness for Him as one people in Christ.

Jones County Slates Bible Conference

John Bob Riddle, pastor of Central Park Church, Birmingham, and Paul Brooks, pastor of Woodlawn Church, Vicksburg, will serve as Bible teacher and inspirational speaker respectively at a Jones County Bible-Evangelism Conference Feb. 20 and 21.

Ralph Graves, chairman of evangelism for the association, has stated that the two evening sessions on Feb. 21, including a noon luncheon, will be held at First Church.

Wayne Meeks, associational music director, is enlisting choirs and musicians for the conference.



Committee on Order Of Business

The Committee on Order of Business for the 1978 Mississippi Baptist Convention is at work on program preparation for the convention. Left to right during a work session are Jim Keith, pastor of First Church, Gulfport; Graham Smith, minister of music at Temple Church, Hattiesburg; Glenn Sullivan, pastor of Oakhurst Church, Clarksdale; Charles Stubblefield, pastor of Ecru Church in Pontotoc Association; and Louis Smith, pastor of First Church, Canton. Macklyn Hubbell, pastor of First Church, Cleveland, was on a Foreign Mission Board sponsored trip to Africa. Keith is chairman, Graham Smith is vice-chairman, and Louis Smith is secretary.

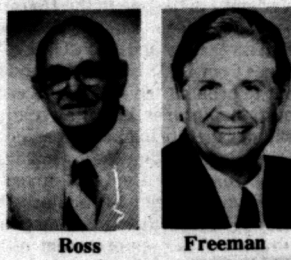
"Overcoming. . ." Is Theme Of Carey Religious Emphasis

"Overcoming. . ." was the theme of Religious Emphasis Week, January 17-19, at William Carey College. Welby Bozeman, pastor of First Church, Chalmette, La., was featured speaker.

Knowledgeable in the areas of psychology and counseling, Bozeman led various group sessions throughout the three-day period. His topics included "Overcoming Doubt"; "Overcoming Worry"; "Overcoming Tension"; "Overcoming Anger"; "Over-

coming an Inferiority Complex"; and "Overcoming Fear." He also brought the devotional thought at the weekly Carey Community Fellowship and spoke to several classes on campus. "Dr. Bozeman had a tremendous impact on our campus," commented Danny Swindle, director of religious activities. "His thoughts and ideas presented our minds, as well as our hearts, with a great challenge."

MBMC Education Seminar Will Focus On Aging



Ross

Freeman

"Pastoral Care to the Aging" will be the subject of an educational seminar to be held on Tuesday, Feb. 21, in the Gilroy Amphitheater at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.

Co-sponsored by medical center and the Christian Action Commission, the seminar is open to pastors of all faiths and anyone working with the aging.

Featured speakers for this 18th annual seminar on Pastoral Care of the Ill will be Carol Freeman, Sr., associate professor of psychology and counseling, New Orleans Seminary, and Thomas G. Ross, M.D., practicing physician in the field of general medicine and surgery.

Freeman is a C.P.E. supervisor at Southeast Louisiana Hospital, Mandeville, La., and area coordinator, Mississippi Council on Aging. Further, he has served as professional therapist in mental health for the West Alabama Mental Health Association. He will speak at 10:45 a.m. on "The Problem of Aging — Who is Responsible and to What Degree?"

Ross is a past president of the Baptist Hospital staff, having served in this capacity on two occasions, past president of the old Charity Hospital staff, and past secretary of the St. Dominic Hospital staff. He will speak at 11:45 a.m. on "Aging — Its Challenge to the Physician."

Spiritual Revival Crusade Planned By Anita Bryant

SAN ANTONIO (RNS) — Entertainer Anita Bryant, who drew national publicity for her campaign against homosexual rights legislation, will conduct what is described as a "spiritual revival crusade" on Feb. 18 at San Antonio's Blossom Athletic Center.

The announcement was made by Joe West, pastor of Town East Baptist Church, who invited Miss Bryant to appear here last June, immediately following defeat of the Dade County, Fla., ordinance prohibiting discrimination against homosexuals.

West said the San Antonio crusade will launch a number of similar events scheduled by Miss Bryant in El Paso and several Arizona cities at later dates.

The Baptist pastor said the San Antonio revival "will deal with all the spiritual issues, including homosexuality." He stressed, however, that gay rights would not be the gathering's major issue.

NOTE: The first Sunday in February is traditionally observed as Baptist World Alliance Day. Seventh Day Baptists observe the date on the preceding Saturday. Churches around the world are encouraged to give thought and prayer to the wilderness of the Baptist fellowship on this or some other date in February. The accompanying article by Robert S. Denny, general secretary of the BWA, is a current update on significant items of Alliance activities.

Southwest Pacific island of New Guinea has climbed from zero to 31,000 baptized believers in 21 years. Other nations such as Brazil, Nigeria, Zambia, and India also are reporting the baptism of new converts by the thousands.

Those of us who sat in meetings of the BWA General Council at Miami Beach in July 1977 sensed a new and vital flow of family togetherness. Some 240 Baptist leaders from 32 countries — each representative bringing to the full body the concerns of his people. Many operate under way difficult circumstances. Others are from church bodies in areas of freedom and affluence. But there at Miami Beach, we all were God's people — Baptist Christians — sharing together as a family and seeking our roles in the fulfillment of the Great Commission.

I note these things with a great deal of personal joy, because I can recall my first journeys to BWA meetings more than 20 years ago. The colonialism, the paternalism of those days is largely gone now. We even had a half way forum at the Miami Beach meetings, sharing our new realization of brotherhood and seeking ways to help one another in our common objectives.

Mt. Vernon Church Burns; Will Meet At Concord

Mount Vernon Church, Route 3, Newton, burned Sunday morning, Jan. 22, between 6:30 and 7. The sanctuary, made of wood, and the education building, of brick, both burned. Nothing was saved from either.

John West has been pastor at Mount Vernon for four years. He and his wife live a short distance from the church but did not spot the early morning blaze. When a man in a truck passed and saw the fire, he stopped to tell the pastor.

Fire trucks came the 11 miles from Newton but the fire was already beyond control.

That morning, 98 met for worship at Billy Givens' home. It was Baptist Men's Day, and the men took charge of the program as planned. That night the congregation met at Concord Church, Jasper County, which is about four miles away. W. L. Compere and Charles Melton from Newton were guest speakers.

Mount Vernon, which has 115 to 130 resident members, will continue to meet at Concord Church until they can rebuild. Concord has only six members and was not meeting every Sunday, so those six members invited Mount Vernon to use the building.

Mrs. West, the Mount Vernon pastor's wife, said that Concord does not have any Sunday school rooms, so two trailers will be moved onto the church grounds for Sunday School space. Also a nearby home has been offered as space for classes. The pastor and another church family will lend the trailers. The pastor's trailer was at the church and caught fire, but was saved.

"The church had some insurance," Mrs. West said, "but of course not enough."

Biloxi Group Goes To N.C. For Ski-Bible Conference

First Church in Biloxi participated in a Ski-Bible Conference. Fifty-six young people and adult chaperones spent four days at Sapphire Valley, N.C. They stayed at the century-old Fairfield Inn and skied at the Sapphire Valley Ski Lodge. The conference was a combination of in-depth Bible studies, fellowship, and group sharing, in addition to full days of skiing.

Adults accompanying the group were Frank Gunn, pastor, who led the Bible studies, Mrs. Gunn, Jim Blakeney, minister of youth, who

planned the trip, Mrs. Blakeney, Bob Middleton, physician, Mrs. Middleton, and Ed Jones, dentist and vice-chairman of deacons. Robert Eustice, chairman of the deacons, and his wife joined the group in North Carolina.

The College and Career Singles from First Church will be leaving for Sapphire Valley to participate in a similar conference in early February. Jimmy Lawrence, minister of education, will be in charge of this group and will lead the Bible studies.



Action

Caley Ray Nichols, pastor, East Side Church, Magee, gives the following report concerning results of ACTION in his church:

"On Oct. 2, our enrollment was 151 and 61 present. We were averaging 64. We were concerned and began to talk ACTION. In every service I promoted ACTION. Our people began to get excited. We had our training sessions, ordered the materials, sent out the letters to our church family."

"On Dec. 4, we had ENROLLMENT DAY. Since then our enrollment has reached 218 and the average attendance is 94. The highest was 100."

"We have had 11 additions to our church membership since Dec. 4."

"There was real excitement among our people in preparation. This was REVIVAL. The main work took place during the busy Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. This was a hindrance in the follow-up work. We believe that ACTION will work ANY TIME in the year when people are willing to work. The follow-up work is still going on and we expect to gain as many within the next few weeks as we have thus far. REVIVAL is the word we need to use because it best describes what took place at East Side."

Interpretation

Don't miss out on the ACTION Interpretation Meetings to be held around the state Feb. 13-14. These are to explain the purpose and operation of ACTION campaigns. For more information, contact the Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department.

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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Evangelism Conference . . .

A Propitious Time

This year's Mississippi Baptist Evangelism Conference comes at a propitious time. It comes on the heels of an announcement that projections of reports would indicate that baptisms in the Southern Baptist Convention during 1977 were the lowest in 28 years. It also comes at a time when Mississippi Baptists are making preparation for statewide simultaneous revivals that are being projected for every Baptist church, black and white.

As we are attending this conference dedicated to evangelism we will be realizing that our nationwide evangelism results are not only at a 28-year low but also are on a downward trend with 1977 being lower than 1976 and 1976 being lower than 1975. We will be realizing also that we have plans to

turn that situation around this year in Mississippi; but if it is to be done, we must get on with the task.

It would seem then that the evangelism conference that will be held Feb. 6 to 8 in Gulfport will be one of the most important such conferences to be held in several years.

If it can serve to inspire us, we surely need that. If it can serve to goad us into greater activity, we surely need that. All of the plans we have made for greater evangelistic activity during the next several years, particularly during the next two years, demand the best that we can put forth performed with dedicated intensity.

Historically, evangelism conferences have been the meetings with the

highest attendance. Baptists have shown an indication of being weary of attending meetings, but we cannot allow ourselves to grow weary of evangelistic efforts. Whatever it is that this meeting in Gulfport will be able to do for us, we need it.

The program should be interesting. Mississippians who will be on the program include Maurice Flowers, missions director in Jones County; Tommy Tutor, First Church, Holly Springs, pastor; Tom Hall, First Church, Purvis, pastor; Richard Porter, co-chairman along with Earl Kelly of an interracial committee on evangelism in Mississippi; Clyde Little, First Church, Forest, pastor; Jerry Clower, nationally known entertainer from Yazoo City; and Larry

Grafton, evangelist from Laurel.

From out-of-state are coming Frank Crumpler, Paul Rees, and Ken Chafin. Chafin, now pastor of South Main Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, will speak at three sessions. He formerly was head of the Evangelism Section of the Home Mission Board. Rees is editor-at-large of World Vision Magazine. He will be the Bible teacher. Crumpler is director of evangelism planning and consultation for the Evangelism Section of the Home Mission Board. He will speak on Tuesday morning and on Wednesday morning.

Robert Naylor, president of Southwestern Seminary, will close the conference.



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

German researchers say that five minutes of hard laughter has the same energizing effect as eating an egg! Laughter, in other words, is good for you.

Luann was a laughing baby, cuddly and chubby, with orange-gold hair. My sister Betty's youngest, she was born Sept. 27, 1958. Mama and Daddy and I went to see her and her mother and daddy in Houston, Tex., three months later. She was lying contentedly in her bassinet in the sunny kitchen, gurgling and cooing. "She's a good baby," Betty said.

By the time she was two she had developed a teasing grin that she could use to wrap anyone at all around her little finger. Like a will-of-the-wisp, she still brightens the atmosphere around her. She radiates good-naturedness.

When she was four she spent a whole week with us for the first time. I was surprised when she accepted my invitation with alacrity and left her mother 400 miles away in Georgia. She went to work with me every day that week. Her hair was long, so I would have to get up very early every morning to struggle with all the tangles. That was when W. D. started calling her his little red-head. Dr. Odle was out of town, so she stayed in his office and happily cut out paper dolls every day. At lunch time we would go to the zoo and feed the baby monkeys.

Back home again, she played "garbage man" with her brother Tommy. They tied a tricycle to the garbage can, and Tommy was the driver. Luann would pick up leaves in her red bucket and empty them into the can. She was then supposed to climb into the can, but she fell in instead, on her head. She didn't scream or cry, but calmly remarked, "Phew, it stinks in here."

One day her sister Karen told her to dive off a chair; she obediently jumped. Karen said, "When you dive, you should go head first." She did that, too, and got up laughing.

When she went to visit her grandmother and granddaddy, as she often did, she immensely enjoyed riding the school bus her granddaddy drove. In first grade she liked to read so well she would flick light switches back and forth just to read ON and OFF.

As Peter Cottontail in a school play she was to carry a basket of eggs and hop across the stage. She jumped too high and dropped all the eggs. They rolled all over the stage — and off it.

Researchers at Michigan State University have found that persons who most appreciate humor have a high level of sensitivity to the feelings of others. Luann could never bear to hurt anyone, a boy friend, or even a stuffed animal! As she entered her teens she wrote a poem to her teddy bear and explained to him that she was a grown-up now and must leave him behind in the land of childhood and she hoped he would understand. Because of her empathy with small children, she plans to teach in elementary school. She is 19 now and a sophomore at LaGrange College.

Enthusiastic and adventuresome, she was the one on our family vacations who dared to walk across the swinging bridge, or ride the aerial car to the top of the mountain.

Teen-agers, I am told, sometimes have a spell of thinking their homes aren't nice enough to invite friends in, etcetera. When Luann was in the ninth grade she wrote her mother a note: "Our family life is most amusing and happy. The appearance of our house isn't much, but the love that lives within can make up for that a thousand times with some left over."

I'm omitting faults today. Okay? I'm talking about my girl who can make her own clothes, who was at the top of her high school typing class, who is a talented writer, and who knows how to laugh, even when life hands her a lemon.

Mini Jane Johnston said during the Christian Women's Club Convention in New Orleans that "joy is the hallmark of a Christian." She told about a grandmother who was always full of laughter. The lady's little granddaughter looked at her in adoration and said, "Grandmother, you are so beautiful!"

"Why, darling, surely you don't think I am beautiful, with my white hair and all these wrinkles?"

"Yes, grandmother! Even your wrinkles turn up!"

I think when Luann is old that even her wrinkles will turn up.

Pornography an Issue . . .

2,000 Bills Introduced

So many bills have been introduced in the two houses of the Legislature that it is impossible to keep up with them and carry on any other kind of work. There must have been in the neighborhood of 2,000. A number of them are very good bills and deserve the support of responsible people. There are even more of these than one can keep up with conveniently.

A few of the bills leave something to be desired.

Thus far the Baptist Record has given most attention to bills in two areas—to lower the blood alcohol content for conviction of drunk driving and to repeal the prohibition of liquor advertising. We have listed all of the other bills that would seem to have interest, however.

Perhaps some should have a little extra attention. For instance, gambling seems to be demanding an extraordinary amount of attention this year. SCR 536 by Smith of the 3rd District would repeal Section 98 of the Mississippi Constitution of 1890 which provides for the prohibition of lotteries. The legalization of lotteries would be a step in the direction of full-scale gambling, and this bill would need to be given serious attention. It was assigned to the Constitution Committee.

Pari-mutuel gambling is the subject of HB 893 by Banks, Gollott, and D. Anderson. It would legalize dog racing and pari-mutuel wagering. It could be that dog racing is not illegal. It would seem that if pari-mutuel gambling is made legal it would work for horse races as well as dog races. With lotteries and pari-mutuel windows going full blast there would be gambling all over the place. This bill was introduced again a day after the first introduction as HB 1122 by Banks and D. Anderson. Both bills were assigned to the Ways and Means Committee.

Pornography received a great deal of attention last year, but little has been said this year. The many bills relating to alcohol have somewhat overshadowed those concerning pornography and other such matters, but they are no less important. HB 1010 by Williams of the 10th District and Wells would prohibit the disseminating of obscene materials and prohibit the dissemination of sexually explicit materials to minors. It defines the terms, and prescribes penalties. This bill was assigned to the Judiciary B Committee. As was pointed out several times last year, something is desperately needed in this area. Mississippi law enforcement officials are powerless to do anything about por-

nography because the law is not explicit.

In the Senate there is a similar bill, SB 2410 by DeCell, which would create offenses relating to obscenity and sexually oriented material and define obscenity and other terms, and it would provide penalties for violation. This bill was assigned to the Senate Judiciary B Committee.

Another bill of particular interest on obscenity is the one in the House presented by Rep. Lonnie Johnson of Rankin County and Jerry Gilbreath of Jones County. This is HB 819 and is an act to prohibit the showing of certain motion pictures to minor children without their being accompanied by a parent or guardian and provides for the penalty. Certain areas of Johnson's district particularly have been plagued with explicit motion pictures, and law enforcement officers have fought them as best they could, but they have had little with which to fight. They need help. The bill has been assigned to the House Judiciary B Committee.

Johnson points out that many of the movies that are the targets of his bill are shown at drive-in theaters, and "we can't forbid their being shown." "We can forbid kids from seeing them unless their parents take them," he

said. He points out that 15-year-olds can get drivers' licenses and that they are not turned away at some drive-in theaters, many times taking 13 and 14-year-olds in with them.

For the benefit of those who might be a little confused by all the numbers and committees, it might be well to point out that all bill numbers beginning with an "H" originate in the House of Representatives. Those beginning with an "S" originate in the Senate.

Another brief look at alcohol-related bills would be in order.

The alcohol advertising bill in the House, HB 851, died in committee. The House Ways and Means Committee is to be applauded for its action in this regard. As far as is known at this time, the bill is still alive in the Senate. It is SB 2505 by Stone and Steckler. It was assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee A. If it is not killed in the Senate committee or in the Senate, it still has a chance of passage.

Incidentally, Thursday (Feb. 2) midnight is the deadline for all general bills to be reported out of committees. There will be a rush to get them out, and those that don't make it die there unless there is an overwhelming push to revive them.

The time is late, and a phone call might be in order.

Amanda Kelly . . .

Testimony In Faith

When the Master calls one of His children home, we all feel ourselves drawn a little closer to Him in our relationship. Because it is an unknown experience, we somehow cannot help but fear to some degree that transition from this earthly life to the presence of the Lord.

As those whom we love and hold in high regard precede us and seem to show us the way, however, we begin to lose some of our fear and begin to realize even more that Heaven's portals swing wide for the redeemed to continue life in a much more glorious

fashion than is at all possible on earth.

Such a person was Amanda Kelly. As she entered into the Lord's presence about 3 p.m. Sunday she no doubt would have testified of the full meaning of the words of Jesus: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

She was a very gracious lady and a

very courageous one. She held a very special place among Mississippi Baptists. No doubt she will be missed. I count it a privilege to have known her.

What a strong and courageous family this is. What an inspiration it has been to see how each member has faced an inevitable situation that has had such an emotional impact on their lives. It has been a witness of faith and strength.

Without question Amanda Kelly accomplished a great deal in helping her husband to build such strength and quality into the fiber of her family. Without doubt she has been a tower of

strength herself as she stood with Dr. Kelly as he has served the Lord faithfully in difficult and responsible situations. She was surely a tower of faith and strength as she faced the separation from the family she had loved and had served so well.

Her life was a powerful testimony to those who knew her. I did not know her long, but this was evident as I have had an opportunity to be close to the family for these brief months.

Thank God for such a testimony. It is one that will continue throughout the age and on into eternity. — DTM

Letters To The Editor

English Church

Dear Sir:

I am acting on behalf of the Pulpit

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Committee of Temple Southern Baptist Church, Little Stukeley, England. We are now searching for the man that the Lord has chosen to fill His pulpit at Temple. As part of our efforts, we would like to have the following notice placed in your state Baptist newspapers, bulletin or other periodical. We sincerely appreciate your help in this endeavor.

This is an opportunity for service as pastor of the Temple Southern Baptist Church, Little Stukeley, England (20 miles NWW of Cambridge). It will become available in October, 1978. Although the congregation is 95 per cent U.S. military, the church is totally autonomous, receiving no support from the government. The church is made up of approximately 50 families. Is our Lord calling someone to fill this place of service, please contact our pulpit committee chairman, Sgt. David Wooden, Box 1518, APO New York 09238.

David Wooden

Mrs. Wells Remembered

Dear Sir:

An elderly friend of mine, Mrs. Paul Wells (Ovda), passed away Thurs-

day. I had planned to go to her funeral but when I woke up it was snowing and I'm afraid to drive in snow. Besides, I had already had one wreck last week.

I really wanted to honor her by being present even though I do not really know her family members very well. I wanted to honor her because she was my friend but more for what she has done for Christ while she was a Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church. She signed my brother's Cradle Roll Certificate. That gives you some idea of the number of years she served.

I know of many children who would never have been able to attend Sunday School and church if she had not been willing to drive all the way across town to give them a ride.

Most people don't stop to think that a ride to Sunday School can mean the difference between life and death to a child—eternal, that is.

It snowed until time for the funeral and then I couldn't believe my eyes when at the exact time for the funeral, the sun came shining through the gray clouds. I thought in amazement of the words of Jesus, "I am the Light of the world. He that liveth and believeth on me shall never die."

She will not be remembered by me

for a beautiful voice or dynamic speeches. I will remember her because she dedicated her simple talent of driving her car to the Lord.

Carolyn Peoples Ellis
Greenwood

Support Your Pastor

Dear Sir:

Just a word to convey to you my appreciation for your editorial "Support Your Local Pastor". You have handled a delicate matter for all of us not only in good taste but with a certain Christian finesse as well. Basically what you have said is just as apropos for Methodists, Presbyterians, etc.

Blessings.
Sincerely,
Donald Charles Lacy, Pastor
First United Methodist Church
Seymour, Indiana

Adversity has ever been considered as the state in which a man most easily becomes acquainted with himself, being free from flatterers. — Samuel Johnson.

"Dear Mom, Dad"

By Charles B. (Benny) Still

Dear Mom and Dad,

Twenty-five years ago today you were happy and sad, scared and excited, and perhaps a little worried because the twinkle in Dad's eye had found someone (MOM) to love, and I was about to become your first-born son — ME!!!

I realize that you aren't used to getting letters like this, but I felt that now was as good a time as any for you to start, so, here it is.

Through the years you have not only been parents to me, but two of the best friends a guy could have. To me, that means not just someone who has cared about me when I was good or bad, happy or sad. Someone who could and would listen when there were problems that I couldn't handle. Someone who would fuss at me when I loused up or did something wrong. Someone who would encourage me when I was feeling down and depressed. Someone who not only fussed, but someone who would beat the devil out of me when I got too full of it. Someone who would burst my bubble if I acted too pompous or proud. You may not have known this, but I really needed a friend, and you were always there. Thanks!

For your Christianity and un-apologetic stand for Christ and the church and what others called "old-fashioned" moral beliefs — I am grateful. For your willingness to let me make some mistakes, even though it meant my being hurt, I'm grateful. For by your allowing me to walk headlong through those experiences, my character has been strengthened far greater than had you made all my decisions for me. For the two of you showing me all of this and at the same time loving me, I just don't know what to say.

I really appreciate your feeding me, and clothing me, and bathing me, and changing my dirty and wet diapers, and sitting up with me when I was sick and praying for me always, and praising me when I did good at something, and encouraging me to do better the next time when I didn't do so well to start with. For all of this and a million other things, I'm so grateful!!!

Proverbs 22:1 talks about the value of having a good name. Mom I'll readily admit that I've been kidded about my name being "STILL," but I am so thankful for the reputation you have given that name. Some kids have a time trying to make a name for themselves because of trashy parents. I don't have to worry about that because you've given me a name to be proud of.

Just a few days ago I had to preach the funeral of a man who was the father of a good friend of mine here. I realized when I saw the hurt in his eyes just how much I had to be thankful for and I just wanted to tell you how I felt. Yes, I am 25 years old today and I just hope that I'll be able to do for you in the next 25 years something that will express my eternal gratitude for having parents like you. Please know that, now, on my 25th birthday, you mean more to me than you ever have before and I love you both with all my heart.

Benny

Former Unification Church Leader Lectures On Experiences

By Mini Ekles

During the Watergate years when much of the nation was calling for the resignation of President Nixon, Chris Elkins was planning pro-Nixon demonstrations across the country and was soliciting support on Capitol Hill under the auspices of the Freedom Leadership Foundation. His boss? Sun Myung Moon.

Elkins joined the Unification Church, Moon's organization as it is known in the United States, as a senior at the University of Arizona in 1973. He came up through the ranks of the movement, skipping over the usual indoctrination of new converts. He dropped out on his own accord after two and a half years.

Elkins related his experiences with Moon and the Unification Church while on a speaking tour of Mississippi colleges and universities this week.

After four months with the Unification movement, most of which was spent with the New Hope Singers International, Elkins met Neil Saloane, the church's leader in the U. S. Saloane introduced him to the Freedom Leadership Foundation, one of Moon's 50 "front" organizations. In 1974 Elkins followed Nixon across the nation organizing rallies calling for support of the president. He said that if Nixon had not resigned Moon probably would have been his closest friend.

Elkins said the front organizations located in Washington are there to sway government policy and to win favors. After working on Capitol Hill for a year and a half, Elkins was transferred to the College Association for the Research of Principles, a college outreach program. Six months later, he became editor of *The Rising Tide*, a bimonthly newspaper of the Unification Church.

Elkins said Moon's political influence is phenomenal. He said that Moon has bought real estate across the country, with his most recent purchases being a newspaper in New York, a church in Washington, D. C. and a shipyard in Mobile. Elkins said he expects to soon see the day when Moon will no longer have to depend on Moonies selling flowers and candles to bring in the church's funds.

Elkins said that the sale of items by Moonies in parking lots, shopping centers and businesses brings in about \$200,000 a day. He said that since Moon identifies his movement as a religion, all funds are tax free. At the present time the church is being investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, the Immigration Board and other government bodies.

Elkins said that Moon thrives on the religious liberty in the United States, but that the movement has not been more successful because of bad publicity. He said the greatest dangers of the church is not its practices, but its threat to religious freedom. He said that a supreme court ruling cracking down on the Unification Church would also affect other churches, including Protestant and Catholic.

Moon's organization is just the opposite of what society is becoming, Elkins said. In the Unification Church, a family atmosphere which is structured and very disciplined exists.

Elkins said that college students are Moon's most vulnerable targets because they can easily fit into the communal atmosphere.

His involvement with the movement began when he was "witnessed to" by members who said they represented the One World Crusade, an "international, concerned, loving group of people working together for God." Elkins said neither Moon nor the Unification Church were mentioned.

"I wasn't out searching for anything. I went to church somewhat regularly, but I had never been met with this kind of enthusiasm and concern," Elkins said. Elkins went to a lecture with Moon's followers, and there met more of the love and concern he had first encountered. (He was later told there was no more love left in the other churches, it was all in the Unification Church.)

Elkins said he was asked what he believed about the "second coming," a subject he was not clear about. After attending seven lectures, he realized the followers believed Moon was the Messiah. Elkins said all logical progression led to that conclusion. He said he joined the movement because he wanted to find out if there was any truth to what they were saying.

Elkins said the Moonies used the Bible to such an extent that he thought it was credible. He now understands how they were misusing it. He said the Moonies do not come out and say that Moon is the Messiah, but are taught to say he is a prophet or teacher. They are told it would be unfair to tell the public Moon is the second coming Messiah because without the proper teachings, the public would not understand.

The former Moonie said that the disciples of the church operate on nervous energy and that the glassy-eyed look reported by many people is caused by exhaustion, not drugs.

Elkins said he could not see himself

that dependent on anything. In 1975 he attended his brother's wedding, and at that time found out that his parents, who were Southern Baptists, had been trying to have him "kidnapped." He fled. When he returned to the movement, he found out that his closest friend had been to Barrytown, where the Unification seminary is located and where intense training and indoctrination takes place.



Elkins

trination takes place.

Elkins said his friend seemed like a different person. Elkins asked him if Moon told him he needed to go home and kill his parents to serve God would he do it. He said his friend replied without hesitation, "yes." Elkins decided at that point to leave the movement.

Opinions Clash At Tax Credit Hearings

(Continued from page 1)

administration is in opposition, it is possible that the bill would face a presidential veto.

Tax Credit
The Packwood-Moynihan Bill proposes a tax credit of one-half of the tuition paid by parents to parochial and other private schools up to a maximum of \$500 per student. This bill includes both elementary-secondary and post-secondary tuition.

Another bill (S.311), proposed by Sen. Roth, includes tuition only for higher education. It begins with a \$250 tax credit the first year and on a graduated scale increases to a maximum of \$500 the fourth year after enactment.

At the hearings, in addition to the Carter administration, those opposing the tax credit proposals included the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, constitutional lawyer Leo Pfeffer, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, the National Coalition for Public Education and Religious Liberty (PEARL), the National

Parent-Teachers Association, the National School Boards Association, and the American Federation of Teachers (AFL-CIO). The National Education Association did not appear at the hearings, but it is lobbying heavily against tax credits.

Those in favor of the proposals included the Federation of Catholic Teachers; Antonio Scalia, professor of constitutional law at the University of Chicago; the Council for American Private Education; the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod; National Association of Independent Schools; Congress of Racial Equality; Citizens for Educational Freedom; and professors from two universities in Canada.

Sen. Moynihan accused those who objected to his proposal on constitutional grounds, including the United States Supreme Court, of being ignorant of the history and meaning of the First Amendment. He charged those who objected on grounds of religious liberty and separation of church and state with being handovers from 19th Century know-nothingism and anti-Catholic bigotry, and of holding Ku Klux Klan viewpoints.

Elkins went to a friend's home in Atlanta instead of returning to his parents, because he wanted to get away from any pressures and get his thoughts together alone with God. Once outside the movement, which he described as having a warm, loving but also stifling "womb" atmosphere, Elkins said he could see it only in terms of black and white, with no gray areas. He said that either Moon was who he said he was, or he was an Antichrist. His first reaction was that he wanted to bury the movement.

Elkins was subpoenaed before a congressional hearing about the Unification Church, which was widely publicized. He was later contacted by the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and took a job with the Interfaith Witness Department in Atlanta.

In his lectures, Elkins relates a volley of distorted biblical interpretations which Moon uses in his teachings. The Unification Church's theology is developed from Divine Principle, a book written after 1936, the year Moon says Jesus appeared to him in a vision. Moon's teachings center on marriage and the belief that Adam and Eve, then Jesus failed in God's mission to produce the perfect race, creating the need for a third Adam — Moon. Followers believe Moon and his third wife, Hak-Ja Han, are their true parents with the divine mission of producing the perfect race, Elkins said. (Elkins is on the staff of *The Hattiesburg American*.)

Emotional Outburst
As for the Carter administration, Moynihan in a lengthy and highly-charged emotional outburst, accused President Carter of violating his campaign pledge of seeking constitutional aid to private education. Moynihan said he was tired of the government lying to the American people and accused the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare of being dedicated to the destruction of the Catholic parochial school system. The New York Democrat was so incensed over the Carter opposition that he threatened to stump his state in the next election and urged the people to vote Republican.

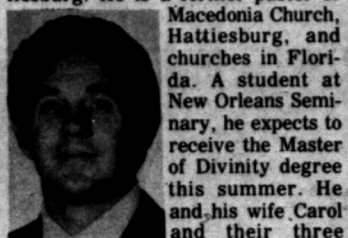
Missionary News
Robert and Nan Sugg, Mississippians who are missionaries to Taiwan, may be correctly addressed at Chien Hsing Lu, 372, Taichung 400, Taiwan, ROC. Their incorrect or incomplete address was printed in a recent issue of the Baptist Record.

Mrs. Ben Fairburn, mother of Margaret Fairburn, missionary to Liberia, died Jan. 16 in Tyler-town, Miss. A native of Tylertown, Fairburn may be addressed at Box 1416, Monrovia, Liberia.

Paul and Betty Roaten, missionaries to Uruguay, may be addressed at Casilla 14052, Montevideo, Uruguay. Before they were appointed in 1970, he was pastor of Temple Heights Church.

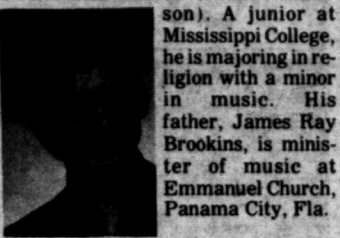
Staff Changes

Richard W. White is the new associate pastor at Calvary Church, Hattiesburg. He is a former pastor of Macedonia Church, Hattiesburg, and churches in Florida. A student at New Orleans Seminary, he expects to receive the Master of Divinity degree this summer. He and his wife Carol and their three children have moved to 407 Ford Drive, Petal. Emmett Boone is the Calvary pastor.



children have moved to 407 Ford Drive, Petal. Emmett Boone is the Calvary pastor.

Kenneth Ray Brookins has accepted the call as minister of music at Pochontas Church (Hinds - Madison).



A junior at Mississippi College, he is majoring in religion with a minor in music. His father, James Ray Brookins, is minister of music at Emmanuel Church, Panama City, Fla.

Morgan City Church has called D. Glenn Simmons as pastor. He, his wife Sherry, and daughter Jennifer moved from Bassfield, where he was pastor of Ebenezer Church (Jefferson Davis). A graduate of William Carey College and New Orleans Seminary, he is presently working on a Doctor of Theology degree from New Orleans Seminary. He is a native of Louisiana and has served churches in Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi.

Percy Cooper Retires After 39 Years

Percy M. Cooper retired Feb. 1 as pastor of Trinity Church, Carthage, after 39 years of full-time pastoral ministry. During the almost 15 years of his ministry at Trinity, the church membership has more than doubled, with over-half of the current membership having been baptized by him. Building done over the almost 15 years totaled over \$117,000 in value. Moving from an inadequate treasury at his arrival in August, 1963, the church has during the years of Cooper's ministry paid all the indebtedness and amassed about \$60,000 in the treasury.

Cooper began his ministry in 1939 when he and his wife left New Orleans seminary to begin a church in south Jackson; the church constituted that summer as Southside Church.

In 1947, Cooper moved to Rocky Creek Church, Lucedale. Fourteen months later God led him to Winbourne Avenue Church, a three-month old church in Baton Rouge.

In December, 1950 the Coopers returned to Jackson to Alta Woods Church.

Involved in building programs in all of these churches, the Coopers say the unique joy of their ministry has been helping young churches in need of organization and growth. The only church in which there was no building program during his ministry was First, Raleigh, between his time at Alta Woods and Trinity.

The Coopers will reside on Pine Hill Drive in Carthage. He will be available for supply or service as interim pastor.

Ben Fisher (Continued from page 1)

Liberal Studies of the University of Arizona, funded by a \$100,000 Lilly Endowment grant. The McGrath Study gave a high ranking to Baptist colleges in academics, enrollment, and finances in comparison to other schools across the country, and includes an extensive follow-up phase.

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Secretaries Seminar

Secretaries from several states attended a four-day personal enrichment seminar Jan. 23-27 at the Baptist Building in Jackson. It was sponsored by the Church Administration Department of the Sunday School Board and the Church Administration and Pastoral Ministries Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Pausing during the seminar were, left to right, Leon Emery, director of the Church Administration in Mississippi; Lucy Hoskins, consultant with the administrative services section of the Church Administration Department in Nashville; Joan McDonough, free-lance secretary from Nashville; and Mary Ray, vice-president of the Mississippi Baptist Secretaries Association and secretary for Rankin Baptist Association.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

James Beasley was recognized Jan. 15 at First Church, Crystal Springs, on his fifth anniversary as minister of music and youth. Ray Grillo, chairman of deacons, spoke words of appreciation and presented the gift of a briefcase.



Essie Ingram, member of Mt. Pisgah Church, celebrated her 94th birthday on Dec. 23, in the home of her daughter, Verna Boyd, with whom she lives. At the age of 10 she accepted Christ as her Savior. Although she is not able to attend church today, she states that she is there in prayer. She is able to read and study her Bible, which she does every day.

Bob Hamblin, pastor at Harrisburg, Tupelo, was one of the participants in the recent Honduras Dental Mission. Each person who took part in the mission paid his own way. Money given by Harrisburg members and others was made available for construction of a new church at Los Animas, Honduras, and for medicine and other materials. Hamblin reports that there were 70 professions of faith in Christ during the time he and others of the team were in Honduras.

Odell Dearing, lifelong resident of Neshoba County and member of Beacon Street Church, Philadelphia, died Jan. 7. He was active in the beginning of the mission endeavor in 1947 that led to the establishment of Beacon Street Church. He had 14 years of perfect attendance in Sunday School to his credit. In addition to singing in the church choir for many years, he and his wife had a monthly hymn sing at their rural cabin retreat. Pastor Henry Hight said, "There is not a child in the church, or an adult either, that will not long remember the unending yield of peppermint candy from his pocket."

Annie Averett Dies At 77

Annie Bell Averett died Jan. 5 at age 77, ending a teaching career that spanned 44½ years in the public schools and in church. A native of Alabama, she had been a resident of Pensacola, Fla. for 24 years.

She had served as director of religious education at several churches in Texas and Mississippi, and she had worked in Training Union and Sunday School conferences all over Mississippi, with Auber Wilds and J. E. Byrd.

Miss Averett retired in 1970, from public school teaching. She made her home with a sister, Genevieve Averett, at 4311 Bayou Blvd., Torrey Village Apts. in Pensacola.

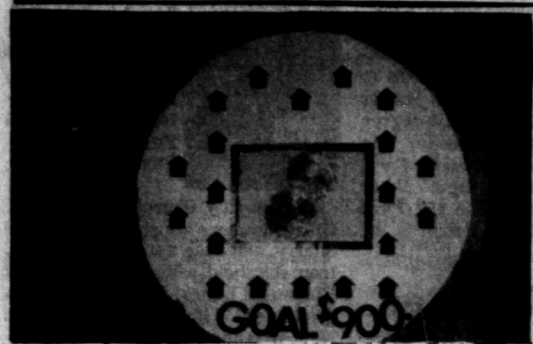
She had taught in several Mississippi schools, including Petal Elementary and Hattiesburg High School. She began teaching Sunday school at age 14. During college and for many summers she did field work in Sunday School and Training Union for the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the Baptist Sunday School Board. She was a graduate of Woman's College, now William Carey, and Southwestern Seminary, and had a master's degree in elementary education.

Survivors include five sisters and two brothers. Three of these live in Mississippi—Mrs. Lorene Klutts, Natchez; Mrs. A. M. Jones, Hattiesburg; and Wilson Averett, Hattiesburg.

The funeral was at First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Sat., Jan. 7. Brooks Wester and Wayne Todd officiating.



Just For The Record



FIRST CHURCH, McLAURIN, Lebanon Association, set their Lottie Moon Foreign Missions goal at \$900 this year, says Jencie Howell, left, WMU director. Pastor Jerry Wise, challenged the church to give equal amounts to missions as they were spending at Christmas on gifts for family members. The church responded by giving more than the goal set. As of January 16, \$1068.28 had been given. The McLaurin Missions Friends group, right, played an important part by collecting pennies for missions. In a special ceremony, January 16, they presented \$51.21 to the church's Lottie Moon Foreign Missions fund.

Deacons of First Church, Oxford, have adopted a deacon partner plan for 1978. Assignments of new members and visitors at the church will be given to the deacon partners on a systematic basis. The teams will also be alert to special needs of various members in times of crisis. For the second year the deacons will remember the senior members of the church through the Golden Seventies program. A single red rosebud will be carried to the 115 members on their birthdays. Lewis Sewell is pastor.

First, Brandon was host on Feb. 1 for a special group of Jewish evangelists known as Jews for Jesus.

This group is one of three mobile

Church Sends Pastor To India

As one Bold Missions project, Bethel Church, Pearl River Association is sending their pastor, Joseph L. Small, to India, on a two-week preaching tour.



The trip involves an eight-day crusade at Parasalla, Trivandrum District, India. In addition he will preach in several churches and schools in the area. He will accompany G. A. McCoy, Pastor of Union Church, also of Pearl River Association. The two left Feb. 1.

evangelist teams that tour the U.S. sharing the message of Christ through drama. Their presentation was "Christ In the Passover." The purpose of this drama is to enhance the Christian understanding of the New Testament by showing a Jewish background for the Communion celebration.

Tom Baddley is pastor at Brandon.

Former Meridian Pastor Dies

Walter Moore, former pastor at First Church, Meridian, died Jan. 6, 1978.

Deacons of First, Meridian, adopted a resolution in honor of him, stating, "During his ministry of eight and a half years in our midst he taught us the Word of God by strong preaching, loving service and wise counsel. Evangelism, missions and social consciousness were emphasized in his ministry and the church grew and matured under his spirit-filled ministry."

"The church, the community, the state and the nation have reason to thank God for this good, wise and loving man who imparted so much of the gospel to so many people."

At the time of his retirement Moore was president of the Georgia Baptist Convention. He had lectured at the Princeton Institute, served as a missionary to Cuba, and had written the sermon outlines for years in the Quarterly Review. He was a native of Louisiana.

Broadmoor Church, Jackson, held Pastor Appreciation Day on Sunday, Jan. 8. On that date Pastor David Grant returned to the pulpit after spending many weeks in varied forms of restricted speech following throat surgery.

An autograph party was held at 5 p.m. at the church, making available Grant's book, *The Preacher and His People*.

The Pre-School and Children's Division had special artwork on display during the day. The Youth Division made a special presentation to the pastor. The Church Choir presented special music during the worship service.

Southern Baptist To Sing At Prayer Breakfast

Jerry Wayne Bernard, Southern Baptist evangelist from Houston, Tex., will sing Feb. 2 in Washington, D. C., for the President's Prayer Breakfast.



He will sing thirty minutes prior to the President's arrival and ten minutes after his arrival, and then close by leading all in several songs.

Former State Pastor Serves In Paraguay

Charles and Eulene Smothers (appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1972) have completed furlough and are now stationed in Asuncion, Paraguay.

Smothers served as pastor of Concord Church in Pelahatchie from 1970 to 1972. While on furlough from August 1976 until June 1977 the Smothers lived in Twin Lakes.

In December they attended many mission meeting and prepared for seven weeks of camp for youth.

Eulene takes care of the food orders for camp. She says it is hard sometimes ordering for 60-80 youngsters. Also the weather is so hot, it is a problem keeping fresh vegetables fresh. However, she says they manage very well.

The Smothers boys, Eddie, Richard, and Greg, are enjoying summer vacation now.

The Smothers left Memphis in December 1972. They spent approximately ten months in language school and went on to Encarnacion, Paraguay where they served until 1976. Since June, 1977, they have been in Asuncion.

The Mt. Olive Church (Lauderdale), has constructed a new educational unit that is being used as a kindergarten, day-care center and preschool building. On Sunday, January 29, from 3 to 5:30 p.m. a dedication and open house were held. Joe I. Strahan is pastor.

"Trust in the Lord, and do good: so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed." (Psalm 37:3).

It was during the depression in the 1930's when I was leaving Jackson for an appointment in the northern part of the state. Right after I was seated on the train, I heard some very serious talking outside the window. There were worried people. Some were saying that they didn't know what they would do and which way they should turn for work.

After the rather lengthy discussion I heard the flagman say, "Trust in the Lord and do good and verily thou shalt be fed."

I don't know how many people he helped, but it surely made an impression on me.

I had been wondering if that would be the last trip that I could make for our State WMU.

As it happened we didn't have to miss any appointments and eventually the depression ended.

In Philippians 4:6 we read that Paul wrote to the Christians in Philippi and told them to be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication to let their requests be made known unto God.

While in Rome I went into the prison which was said to have been the one Paul was in when he wrote to his fellow Christians.

I wondered how he could have kept from worrying, but instead he wrote, "Rejoice in the Lord, and again I say, Rejoice."

When our lives are filled with joy, thanksgiving, and praise there won't be room for the nitty gritty things that come often to upset us.

The following poem expresses much and can help us when we are prone to worry:

OVERHEARD IN AN ORCHARD:

Said the Robin to the Sparrow:

"I should really like to know
Why these anxious human beings
Rush about and worry so!"

Said the Sparrow to the Robin:

"Friend, I think that it must be
That they have no heavenly Father,
Such as cares for you and me."

—Elizabeth Cheney, 1859

(NOTE: The writer is the widow of a former Baptist Record editor, A. L. Goodrich.)

Ruffins Move Into New Pastorium After Narrow Escape From Fire

James Ruffin, pastor of Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian, and his family have moved into the new pastorium that the church has bought at 6220 - 17th Avenue.

The church bought the house rather than try to repair the pastorium which was almost totally ruined by fire and smoke on December 25.

Ruffin said that he and his family were awakened by noises about midnight, then smelled the smoke, and realized the house was burning. (Neighbors said they heard an explosion, which may have been the hot water heater since the fire seems to have started in the utility room.)

Ruffin saw that the flames would

prevent escape through any door, so he called his son and daughter from adjoining bedrooms and he and his wife and children left the house through the window of the parents' bedroom.

Al, a freshman at Clarke, was home for Christmas holidays. Ginny is a high school junior.

"The Lord was really with us," Ruffin said. "Firemen expressed amazement that we got out before being overcome by the smoke. The people here have been wonderful, and all our needs have been met. We are very thankful to be alive and to experience the sustaining power of God."

They saved a few of their furnishings, but they had been damaged by

smoke. Outside the window the night of the fire, it was 16 degrees. The Ruffins went across the street to a neighbors' house. "Many let us borrow coats and wraps," Ruffin said.

Los Angeles (EP) — F. E. L. Publications has filed suit seeking \$8.6 million in damages from the National Conference of Catholic bishops for allegedly permitting the use of pirated hymns in Roman Catholic churches. The 13-year-old company, begun after Vatican II created a demand for new church music, has 1,250 pieces of copyrighted music.

Uniform Lesson

God's Actions In Israel's History

By Hardy R. Denham, Jr.
First, Newton
Psalms 105:1-11, 43-45

History is commonly considered the record of man's past actions and achievements. History is a chronicle of significant events with an emphasis upon the acts of man. The ancient Hebrew considered history in a different light. Even though men were the actors on the stage of history, God was seen as the Director. Everything that took place in history was related in one way or another to God. Either the Lord caused it to happen or He allowed it. The emphasis upon God in human affairs cannot be ignored in the Old Testament, for this is the way the Hebrew looked at history.

The ancient Hebrew was not wrong about history. The Lord God is sovereign and He is at work to bring to pass those things He purposes. As someone well said, history is His story.

Many scholars believe that Psalms 105 dates from the time of the Babylonian exile, or just after the return to Judah from that captivity (536 BC). The psalm was intended to encourage a discouraged people by reminding them of what God had done in the past. Since the Lord had worked in previous times, He would work in their time.

I. The Praise of God—Verses 1-4

First, praise of God is demanded. Three different times the psalmist called the people to praise the Lord. He said, "O give thanks to the Lord" (verse 1); "Sing praises to Him" (verse 2); and "Glory in His holy name" (verse 3).

Some have trouble understanding why the Lord commands men to praise Him. They see this as an ego need on God's part. It seems to some that the command to praise God speaks of a need God has for man's attention. Such is not the case at all. The Lord commands that we praise Him, not because He needs our praise, but because we need to praise Him.

Of course, there is a very practical benefit from the practice of praise. Praising God is a positive action in which one takes attention off self and puts it on the Lord. Doing this enables one to overcome negative attitudes and thoughts which can defeat life.

Second, praise of God is to be declared to others. The psalmist told the

people to "make known His (God's) deeds among the peoples" (verse 1), and "tell of all His wonderful works!" (verse 2). Since the Lord had worked in behalf of His people, they were not only to praise Him for doing so, but share the reports of it with all peoples.

It is the responsibility of those in whose life the Lord has done a marvelous work, not only to praise and thank the Lord, but also to share the event with other people. It does not take a lot of theology in the head to be a good witness. It does take doxology in the heart.

II. The Performance of God Verses 5-11.

The bulk of the material in this psalm focuses on God's past performance in behalf of His people (verses 5-45). The focus of verses 5-11 is upon God's dealings with the patriarchs in making a covenant with them.

First, the Lord established the covenant. The call to remembrance (verses 5-6) focused on the fact that the Lord established a covenant with Abraham. The first record of this covenant is found in Genesis 12:1-3. Basically the Lord promised Abraham that He would make of His servant a great nation, give to him a land, and make Abraham a source of blessing for all mankind.

This covenant was not taken lightly by the Lord because He is forever mindful of it and will be "for a thousand generations" (verse 8). This means that God continually remembers what He said He would do, and He would keep His word. This fact alone should have been an encouragement to a discouraged people.

Second, the Lord extended the covenant. Having first made the covenant with Abraham, it was then renewed with Isaac (Genesis 26:3) and Jacob (Genesis 35:12). Jacob was the father of the sons from whom the twelve tribes came, thus the promise was extended to all the descendants of Jacob. The Lord made it "an everlasting covenant" (verse 10).

Third, the Lord executed the covenant. The section containing verses 12-42 is not a part of the focal passage of this lesson, but it details how the Lord kept His part of the agreement. In Egypt the sons of Jacob developed into a mighty people (verses 23-25). The Lord set them free and eventually led them to the promised land of Canaan (verses 11, 26-38).

III. The Purpose of God—Verses 43-45.

The Lord's performance in history is with a goal in view. His great purpose is redemption. The exodus from Egypt was the experience of redemption for the ancient Hebrews. The psalmist referred to that experience in the words, "So He led forth His people" (verse 43). This salvation was an occasion of joy and singing. The Lord brought Israel out of Egypt in order that He might lead them into Canaan (verse 44).



A Woman's World Reaches For
Beyond the Ironing Board
—Wanda Fancher

The other night we had supper with a family whose Dad, John, has as a hobby the restoring and re-working of clocks. At least a dozen clocks—little ones, big ones, clocks for the mantle, grandfather clocks, even a grandmother clock—were on display in the living-dining area, and each had an interesting history.

John told us about some of them. Almost without exception, the condition of every clock had been doleful when he came into possession of it. But he knew how to look under the dirty, ugly finish and the tarnished, black metals and find the lovely wood and the workable mechanics to reinstate each clock to its purpose for existence—keeping time for its owner.

It was interesting to hear of the ways he had used to clean and re-finish the wood, and the painstaking work involved in cleaning and re-working the clocks. There was a sense of pride and accomplishment in his voice and on his face.

It made me think of people I have known whose doleful condition caused other people to think them worthless and finished. Then the Holy Spirit moved in and through their lives to clean and renew them and restore them to a good purpose in life. Often times a human being, caring and loving and guiding, was used of the Lord as an instrument to help bring another to the presence of the Lord, and then to rejoice over the miraculous change and redemption in a life.

A human touch and a divine touch—the way God chose to do His work.

Man's redemption is to be expressed by obedient service (verse 45). Man's responsibility in the covenant relationship is obedience to God. One problem in the quest for peace in the Middle East today concerns the land itself. Israel believes it belongs to her by right of the promise made to Abraham. What Israel does not remember, however, is that God's purpose in deliverance was obedience.

The same truth has not been comprehended by some Christians. Salvation is not a possession to boast about but a relationship to be expressed by obedient service.

Myers, Anglin On Program, NY Meeting

Charles Myers, pastor of Alta Woods Church in Jackson, and Gary Anglin, Alta Woods' minister of music, will be program personalities at the Evangelism Conference of the Baptist Convention of New York when it meets in New York City Feb. 6 and 7.

Myers will speak at the general session on Tuesday morning, and will also lead one of the interest group conferences.

Anglin will direct the music for all of the general sessions, and will present a concert on Tuesday evening.

Iuka Church: Feb. 5-10; Cliff Perkins, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Jackson, evangelist; Hubert Greer, singer; Charles Damper, pastor. Services at 12:25 noon and 7 nightly; noon meal served 11:50-12:25.

New York (RNS) — The United Church Foundation, a common investment fund of the United Church of Christ, earned 42 cents for every dollar of its investors' money over the past five years, according to a report released here.

Revival Dates

Life and Work Lesson

The Secret Of Fruitful Living

By Bill Duncan, Long Beach, First John 15:1-17

Sometime ago Elton Trueblood suggested that today we have a phenomenon called a "cut flower civilization." It was his analogy of the vine and the branch relationship of John 15. He said a Christian cannot exist without drawing daily sustenance from their nurturing source.

It is of necessity for a branch to be connected to the vine for life to flow through. Jesus said, "I am the vine and ye are the branch." He spoke these words to explain to them that their spiritual life would come from Him. There would be no such thing as living, walking, and serving apart from Him. He told them plainly that they could not do the will of God in their own strength.

Abiding in Jesus

The secret of fruitful living is abiding in Jesus Christ. Abiding in Jesus Christ means living in daily fellowship with Christ, hearing and obeying His words, and demonstrating such obedience with responsible love.

The initial acceptance of Jesus Christ as Saviour is even more than having the Holy Spirit to live in the life of the Christian. The Holy Spirit must be the motivating power and enabling power before the fruits of Christian life can be born. Fruit bearing or fruitful living means becoming like Christ in the quality of one's life.

The disciple who abides in Christ

will be able to pray effectively. When the believer puts his whole trust in God, when His words abide in the heart so that the life conforms to the Lord's guidance, he will ask what he wills and find that God will grant his request. Obviously this does not mean he can ask anything or everything. His petitions will be guided by the Spirit, if he is truly abiding in Christ. He will discover what he wants will come to be what the Lord wants.

The relationship of abiding gives the Christian the proper life and strength to "bear much fruit." In this way God gets His work done on earth through those who abide in Christ. To say they will "bear much fruit" is just another way of expressing the achievement of God's purpose, and "so shall ye be my disciples."

The Husbandman and Pruning

Careful pruning is necessary in any successful fruit growing. An unfruitful branch will be cut off. Everyone has seen plants like that, even trees. When a portion is dead or brown, a gardener will cut off the dead branch in order for a new sprout to form from the trunk.

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman." We prefer to think of God in soft, comforting terms and this is good and true. But there is another side to His nature. He is the Divine Gardener and in His hand is a pruning knife. He gets rid of useless and unproductive branches.

Jesus seems to be saying that God

doesn't put up with branches which want to be fed by the vine but do not want to bear fruit. He has no patience with hypocrites and parasites. The purpose of the pruning of the fruit bearing branches is so that they may bear more fruit. Some have read into this that God puts trouble upon us to punish us. While we do see the chastening hand of God, we also see that the pruning is not designed to make the plant suffer, but instead to give greater strength to the branches so that they will produce more.

Jesus went on to describe the pruning experience by saying, "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." Cleansed means the believer has been pruned. The action is the effect of cleansing out some of the things which are not in accord with the will of God. This is a natural and necessary process in growth. Many habits and ways are not fruitful and do not help toward Christian character. God wants these to be cut off.

It should be recognized that in some cases the pruning may be done by an act of Providence. Some calamity or trouble may make it necessary or advisable to cease certain practices. The believer may not even be aware that this change in his way of living was important for his growth in spiritual living. The result can be more fruit to the glory of God who brought such change or changes to pass through His Providence.